

Message Text

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51

ACTION VO-03

INFO OCT-01 NEA-14 ISO-00 SCA-01 L-03 CPR-02 CIAE-00

FBIE-00 INSE-00 NSAE-00 SY-04 INR-11 /039 W

----- 069479

R 301238Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO AMEMBASSY JIDDA

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 0000

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: CVIS, SA

SUBJ: VISA RECIPROCITY

REF: JIDDA 5557, TEHRAN 5672

EMBASSY TEHRAN'S EXPERIENCE WITH SAUDI VISAS AS FOLLOWS:

1. A DIPLOMATIC NOTE FROM CONSULAR SECTION REQUIRED FOR EVERY VISA REQUESTED BY AMERICANS, INCLUDING DIPLOMATIC, OFFICIAL, AND REGULAR PASSPORT BEARERS. THIS NOTE MUST INCLUDE STATEMENT QUOTE THE ABOVE IS MEMBER OF THE CHRISTIAN FAITH UNQUOTE.

2. AVERAGE TIME BETWEEN SUBMISSION OF PASSPORT AND ISSUANCE OF VISA ONE TO TWO DAYS.

3. TRANSIT VISA FOR 72 HOURS GRATIS, BUT VISA FOR REGULAR PASSPORT HOLDERS WITH BUSINESS IN SA COSTS 385 RIALS (APPROXIMATELY \$6) AND NEEDS ONE PICTURE. NO VISAS ISSUED TO PEOPLE WITH NO BUSINESS IN SA, EXCEPT TO PILGRIMS, FOR WHOM VISAS ARE GRATIS.

4. EMBASSY HAS BEEN INFORMED BY SAUDI ARABIAN CONSUL THAT VISAS ARE NOT, REPEAT NOT, GIVEN TO SINGLE AMERICAN WOMEN, EXCEPT TEACHERS FOR ARAMCO. IN ONE INSTANCE, AN AMERICAN WOMAN WANTED TO VISIT SA WITH HUSBAND WHO WAS GOING ON BUSINESS AND TO VISIT HUSBAND'S BROTHER RESIDING IN JIDDA. HUSBAND GIVEN VISA

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WITH NO PROBLEM, BUT WOMAN HAD TO SIGN AFFIDAVIT SWEAING SHE WAS

INDEED MARRIED AND TRAVELING WITH HUSBAND, AND CONSULAR SECTION
ALSO HAD TO CERTIFY SAME BY NOTE. EVENTUALLY WAS GIVEN VISA,
AFTER REPORTED PREVIOUS REFUSALS IN PARIS AND ROME.

5. OTHER THAN ABOVE CASE,NO UNDUE HARRASSMENT HAS BEEN EXPERIENCED
IN RECENT TIMES BY TEHRAN EMBASSY.
HELMS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 30 SEP 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: blochd0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974TEHRAN08272
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740275-0599
From: TEHRAN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t1974091/aaaaaaph.tel
Line Count: 68
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION VO
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: JIDDA 5557, TEHRAN 5672
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: blochd0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21 JUN 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <02 MAY 2002 by ifshinsr>; APPROVED <06 MAR 2003 by CollinP0>; WITHDRAWN <13 Jun 2005 by BoyleJA, PRIVACY>; RELEASED <21 JUN 2005 by powellba2>; APPROVED <21 JUN 2005 by blochd0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: VISA RECIPROCITY
TAGS: CVIS, SA
To: JIDDA
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005